

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Maruyama

Serial No. To be assigned

Filed: Concurrently herewith

For: BASE MATERIAL FOR DRY DIRECT TABLETING COMPRISING LOW-SUBSTITUTED HYDROXYPROPYL CELLULOSE

Date: September 26, 2001

BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

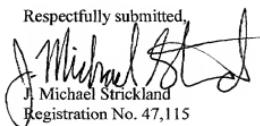
Sir:

Please consider the below amendment prior to the entry of the above-referenced patent application.

In the Specification:

At page one, prior to the heading "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION", please insert --This application claims priority from Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-293279, filed September 27, 2000, the disclosure of which is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.--

Respectfully submitted,


J. Michael Strickland
Registration No. 47,115

20792

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Monica L. Croom
September 26, 2001